

Col. Meldrum Is Awarded Bronze Star

Col. Claron W. Meldrum, who from 1946 to 1948 was executive officer of the Ordnance Ammunition Center in Joliet (then the Office of the Field Director of Ammunition Plants) was awarded the Bronze Star Medal yesterday.

The award was presented by Brig. Gen. Joel G. Holmes, present commander of the Ordnance Ammunition Center, in his office. It was given to Col. Meldrum for meritorious service as an ordnance staff officer on Okinawa in 1950-51.

A native of Chicago and a graduate of Western Military Academy at Alton, Illinois, Col. Meldrum since last December has been commanding officer of Milan Arsenal in Tennessee. This is one of 25 ammunition plants directed by Gen. Holmes from his headquarters here.

The medal citation, which was read by Lt. Col. John G. Zierdt, executive officer of OAC, stated in part that:

"DEMONSTRATING unusual initiative and ability, Col. Meldrum between July 1950 and November 1951 on Okinawa formulated and directed a comprehensive motor vehicle rehabilitation program.

"Thru his tireless efforts, combat units were shipped to Korea with all vehicular equipment in combat-serviceable condition.

"In addition, he organized and implemented the expeditious roll-up and shipment of ordnance equipment to Japan for rehabilitation, enabling units there to supply a large quantity of rebuilt vehicles for Korean operations.

"COL. MELDRUM supervised an extensive maintenance program which substantially improved logistical support to the 20th Air Force for sustained air operations in Korea. His steadfast devotion to duty and his brilliant achievements reflect credit on himself and the military service."

On Dec. 20, 1951, Col. Meldrum became officer of the \$56 million Milan Arsenal, which is located on a 25,000-acre tract three miles south of Milan, Tenn.